

## **Chapter 18.705**

### **ACCESS, EGRESS, AND CIRCULATION**

#### **Sections:**

- 18.705.010 Purpose**
- 18.705.020 Applicability of Provisions**
- 18.705.030 General Provisions**

#### **18.705.010 Purpose**

- A. Purpose. The purpose of this chapter is to establish standards and regulations for safe and efficient vehicle access and egress on a site and for general circulation within the site.

#### **18.705.020 Applicability of Provisions**

- A. When provisions apply. The provisions of this chapter shall apply to all development including the construction of new structures, the remodeling of existing structures (see Section 18.360.050), and to a change of use which increases the on-site parking or loading requirements or which changes the access requirements.
- B. Change or enlargement of use. Should the owner or occupant of a lot or building change or enlarge the use to which the lot or building is put, thereby increasing access and egress requirements, it is unlawful and is a violation of this title to begin or maintain such altered use until the provisions of this chapter have been met if required or until the appropriate approval authority has approved the change.
- C. When site design review is not required. Where the provisions of Chapter 18.360, Site Development Review, do not apply, the Director shall approve, approve with conditions, or deny an access plan submitted under the provisions of this chapter in conjunction with another permit or land use action.
- D. Conflict with subdivision requirements. The requirements and standards of this chapter shall not apply where they conflict with the subdivision rules and standards of this title.

#### **18.705.030 General Provisions**

- A. Continuing obligation of property owner. The provisions and maintenance of access and egress stipulated in this title are continuing requirements for the use of any structure or parcel of real property in the City.
- B. Access plan requirements. No building or other permit shall be issued until scaled plans are presented and approved as provided by this chapter that show how access, egress and circulation requirements are to be fulfilled. The applicant shall submit a site plan. The Director shall provide the applicant with detailed information about this submission requirement.
- C. Joint access. Owners of two or more uses, structures, or parcels of land may agree to utilize jointly the same access and egress when the combined access and egress of both uses, structures, or parcels of land satisfies the combined requirements as designated in this title, provided:

1. Satisfactory legal evidence shall be presented in the form of deeds, easements, leases or contracts to establish the joint use; and
  2. Copies of the deeds, easements, leases or contracts are placed on permanent file with the City.
- D. Public street access. All vehicular access and egress as required in Sections 18.705.030H and 18.705.030I shall connect directly with a public or private street approved by the City for public use and shall be maintained at the required standards on a continuous basis.
- E. Curb cuts. Curb cuts shall be in accordance with Section 18.810.030N.
- F. Required walkway location. On-site pedestrian walkways shall comply with the following standards:
1. Walkways shall extend from the ground floor entrances or from the ground floor landing of stairs, ramps, or elevators of all commercial, institutional, and industrial uses, to the streets which provide the required access and egress. Walkways shall provide convenient connections between buildings in multi-building commercial, institutional, and industrial complexes. Unless impractical, walkways shall be constructed between new and existing developments and neighboring developments;
  2. Within all attached housing (except two-family dwellings) and multi-family developments, each residential dwelling shall be connected by walkway to the vehicular parking area, and common open space and recreation facilities;
  3. Wherever required walkways cross vehicle access driveways or parking lots, such crossings shall be designed and located for pedestrian safety. Required walkways shall be physically separated from motor vehicle traffic and parking by either a minimum 6-inch vertical separation (curbed) or a minimum 3-foot horizontal separation, except that pedestrian crossings of traffic aisles are permitted for distances no greater than 36 feet if appropriate landscaping, pavement markings, or contrasting pavement materials are used. Walkways shall be a minimum of four feet in width, exclusive of vehicle overhangs and obstructions such as mailboxes, benches, bicycle racks, and sign posts, and shall be in compliance with ADA standards;
  4. Required walkways shall be paved with hard surfaced materials such as concrete, asphalt, stone, brick, other pervious paving surfaces, etc. Any pervious paving surface must be designed and maintained to remain well-drained. Walkways may be required to be lighted and/or signed as needed for safety purposes. Soft-surfaced public use pathways may be provided only if such pathways are provided in addition to required pathways.
- G. Inadequate or hazardous access.
1. Applications for building permits shall be referred to the Commission for review when, in the opinion of the Director, the access proposed:
    - a. Would cause or increase existing hazardous traffic conditions; or

- b. Would provide inadequate access for emergency vehicles; or
  - c. Would in any other way cause hazardous conditions to exist which would constitute a clear and present danger to the public health, safety, and general welfare.
2. Direct individual access to arterial or collector streets from single-family dwellings and duplex lots shall be discouraged. Direct access to collector or arterial streets shall be considered only if there is no practical alternative way to access the site. If direct access is permitted by the City, the applicant will be required to mitigate for any safety or neighborhood traffic management (NTM) impacts deemed applicable by the City Engineer. This may include, but will not be limited to, the construction of a vehicle turnaround on the site to eliminate the need for a vehicle to back out onto the roadway.
  3. In no case shall the design of the service drive or drives require or facilitate the backward movement or other maneuvering of a vehicle within a street, other than an alley. Single-family and duplex dwellings are exempt from this requirement.

#### H. Access Management

1. An access report shall be submitted with all new development proposals which verifies design of driveways and streets are safe by meeting adequate stacking needs, sight distance and deceleration standards as set by ODOT, Washington County, the City and AASHTO (depending on jurisdiction of facility.)
2. Driveways shall not be permitted to be placed in the influence area of collector or arterial street intersections. Influence area of intersections is that area where queues of traffic commonly form on approach to an intersection. The minimum driveway setback from a collector or arterial street intersection shall be 150 feet, measured from the right-of-way line of the intersecting street to the throat of the proposed driveway. The setback may be greater depending upon the influence area, as determined from City Engineer review of a traffic impact report submitted by the applicant's traffic engineer. In a case where a project has less than 150 feet of street frontage, the applicant must explore any option for shared access with the adjacent parcel. If shared access is not possible or practical, the driveway shall be placed as far from the intersection as possible.
3. The minimum spacing of driveways and streets along a collector shall be 200 feet. The minimum spacing of driveways and streets along an arterial shall be 600 feet.
4. The minimum spacing of local streets along a local street shall be 125 feet.

#### I. Minimum access requirements for residential use.

1. Vehicular access and egress for single-family, duplex or attached single-family dwelling units on individual lots and multi-family residential uses shall not be less than as provided in Table 18.705.1 and Table 18.705.2;

**TABLE 18.705.1**  
**VEHICULAR ACCESS/EGRESS REQUIREMENTS:**  
**RESIDENTIAL USE (6 OR FEWER UNITS)**

Number Dwelling Unit/Lots	Minimum Number of Driveways Required	Minimum Access Width	Minimum Pavement Width
1 or 2	1	15'	10'
3-6	1	20'	20'

**TABLE 18.705.2**  
**VEHICULAR ACCESS/EGRESS REQUIREMENTS:**  
**MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL USE**

Dwelling Units	Minimum Number of Driveways Required	Minimum Access Required	Minimum Pavement Sidewalks, Etc.
1-2	1	15'	10'
3-19	1	30'	24' if two-way, 15' if one-way: Curbs and 5' walkway required
20-49	1 or 2	30'	24' if two-way
		30'	15' if one-way: Curbs and 5' walkway required
50-100	2	30'	24' Curbs and 5' walkway required

2. Vehicular access to multi-family structures shall be brought to within 50 feet of the ground floor entrance or the ground floor landing of a stairway, ramp, or elevator leading to the dwelling units;
3. Private residential access drives shall be provided and maintained in accordance with the provisions of the Uniform Fire Code;
4. Access drives in excess of 150 feet in length shall be provided with approved provisions for the turning around of fire apparatus by one of the following:
  - a. A circular, paved surface having a minimum turn radius measured from center point to outside edge of 35 feet;
  - b. A hammerhead-configured, paved surface with each leg of the hammerhead having a minimum depth of 40 feet and a minimum width of 20 feet;
  - c. The maximum cross slope of a required turnaround is 5%.
5. Vehicle turnouts, (providing a minimum total driveway width of 24 feet for a distance of at least 30 feet), may be required so as to reduce the need for excessive vehicular backing motions in situations where two vehicles traveling in opposite directions meet on driveways in excess of 200 feet in length;
6. Where permitted, minimum width for driveway approaches to arterials or collector streets shall be no less than 20 feet so as to avoid traffic turning from the street having to wait for traffic exiting the site.

J. Minimum access requirements for commercial and industrial use.

1. Vehicle access, egress and circulation for commercial and industrial use shall not be less than 21 as provided in Table 18.705.3;

**TABLE 18.705.3  
VEHICULAR ACCESS/EGRESS REQUIREMENTS:  
COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL USES**

<b>Required Parking Spaces</b>	<b>Minimum Number of Driveways Required</b>	<b>Minimum Access Width</b>	<b>Minimum Pavement</b>
0-99	1	30'	24' curbs required
100+	2	30'	24' curbs required
	or 1	50'	40' curbs required

2. Vehicular access shall be provided to commercial or industrial uses, and shall be located to within 50 feet of the primary ground floor entrances;
  3. Additional requirements for truck traffic may be placed as conditions of site development review.
- K. One-way vehicular access points. Where a proposed parking facility indicates only one-way traffic flow on the site, it shall be accommodated by a specific driveway serving the facility; the entrance drive shall be situated closest to oncoming traffic and the exit drive shall be situated farthest from oncoming traffic.
- L. Director's authority to restrict access. The Director has the authority to restrict access when the need to do so is dictated by one or more of the following conditions:
1. To provide for increased traffic movement on congested streets and to eliminate turning movement problems, the Director may restrict the location of driveways on streets and require the location of driveways be placed on adjacent streets, upon the finding that the proposed access would:
    - a. Cause or increase existing hazardous traffic conditions; or
    - b. Provide inadequate access for emergency vehicles; or
    - c. Cause hazardous conditions to exist which would constitute a clear and present danger to the public health, safety, and general welfare.
  2. To eliminate the need to use public streets for movements between commercial or industrial properties, parking areas shall be designed to connect with parking areas on adjacent properties unless not feasible. The Director shall require access easements between properties where necessary to provide for parking area connections;
  3. To facilitate pedestrian and bicycle traffic, access and parking area plans shall provide efficient sidewalk and/or pathway connections, as feasible, between neighboring developments or land uses;
  4. A decision by the Director per 18.705.030 K.1.-3. above may be appealed by means of a Type II procedure, as regulated by Section 18.390.040, using criteria contained in Section 18.370.020 C3. (Ord. 06-20, Ord. 02-33)